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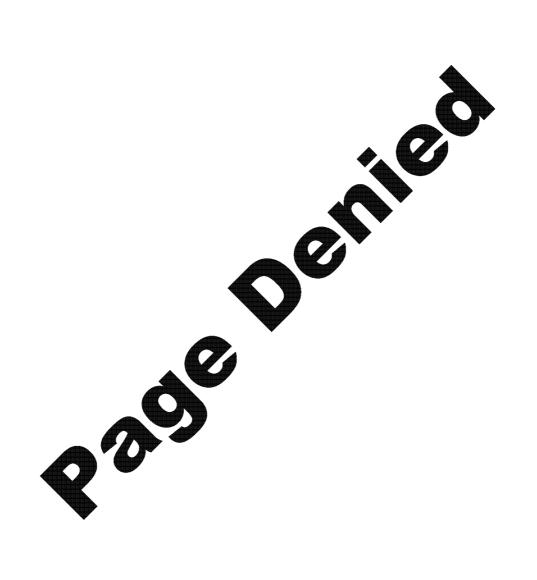
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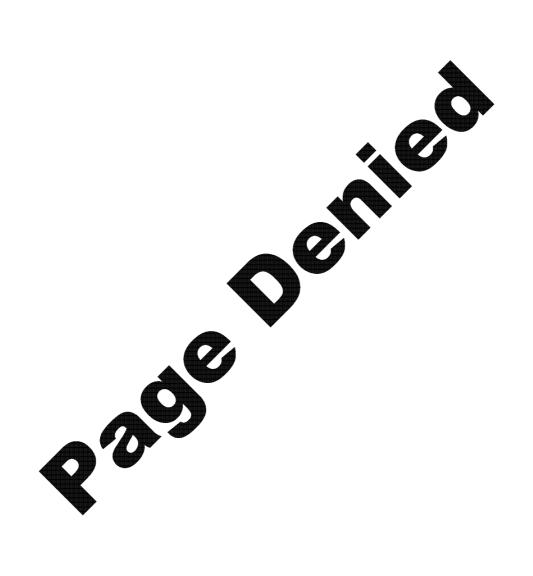
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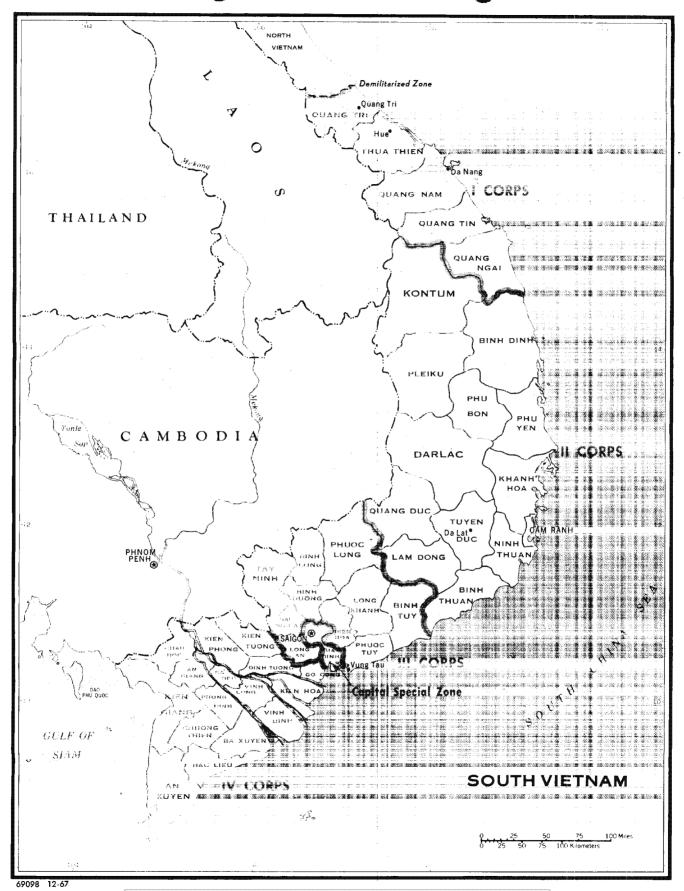
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 Vietnam: Situation report. (Page 2)	
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*South Vietnam: Action by the Upper House of the National Assembly appears to clear the way for the implementation of the government's partial mobilization decree.

Despite its objections to the law, which is scheduled for implementation on 1 January, the Upper House passed a resolution which merely urged the government to clarify certain provisions and to delay as long as possible the drafting of men under 20. Although the Lower House may yet attempt to modify the law when it reconvenes early next month, no changes are likely before the call-up is scheduled to begin.

Major military action prior to the New Year ceasefire was largely confined to the northern coastal area. Over 90 enemy were reported killed in four separate engagements in Quang Tri and Quang Nam provinces on 27 and 28 December. In one of these actions. 48 US Marines were killed.

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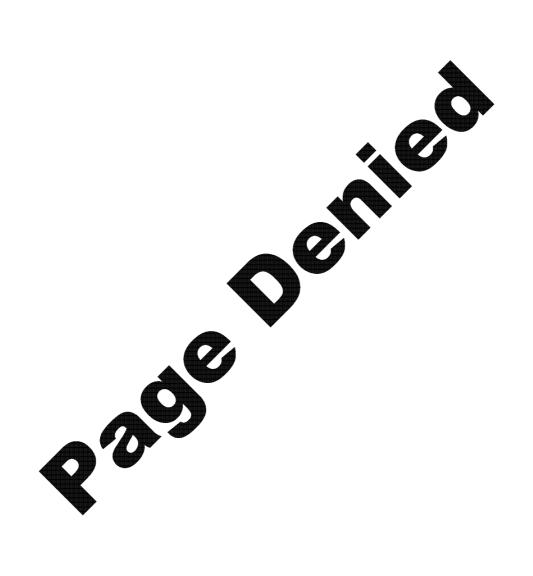
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